

JAN.
2021

CHRISCROSS

AT HOME

*...issued occasionally to keep
you in touch, with things to read
and things to do.*

*A Happy New Year
from all the CHRISCROSS AT HOME team*



Mike and Carole



Jeannette



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Jackie

Welcome to our January edition of CHRISCROSS at HOME.

Another year has started, but because of Covid, we are still meeting on paper rather than together. We are all sad about that, but we know it is the safest thing to do at the moment.

This month, we are going to think about a story that Jesus told about a lady who was very poor, and could only afford to put two small coins into the Temple collection box. She was a bit embarrassed that she could only give a small amount in comparison with everyone else. But Jesus reminds us that for her, what she gave was everything that she had, and this was far more valuable to him than all of the money from the rich people, who could afford much more.

I hope you will enjoy hearing the story, and doing the activities this month. We have really enjoyed seeing your photos of the crafts you have done recently - so keep sending them to us.

Revd Martin

THE WIDOW'S COINS

Every Sunday during the weekly services, the congregation puts money into a bag or plate and this is called an offering. It is used for many purposes such as looking after the church building and helping anyone who needs it more than we do. There is a story in the bible about Jesus and offerings and it goes like this: One day Jesus and some of his disciples went to the temple. They sat down near the place where the offerings were placed. There was a line of people waiting to give their offering. They dropped their coins into a money box. They clattered as they fell.

Jesus said to his friends, 'If you listen closely, you can hear how many coins each person has given. Who do you think will give the most?'

The first person was a merchant, someone who buys and sells things. He looked very rich in his fine clothes and as he dropped the coins in Jesus and his friends counted them.

One, two, three.

Four, five, six.

Seven, eight, nine and ten.

'Ten coins!' said one of the disciples. 'Not bad, but I bet someone will do better.'

Soon someone did. The next man was a lawyer. He was dressed even better than the merchant. Jesus and his friends had to count very quickly as the coins clattered down.

Two, four, six.

Eight, ten, twelve.

Fourteen, sixteen, eighteen, twenty.

'Twenty coins!' said another disciple. Twice as many as the first man.

Then a third man walked up to the money box. He was one of the religious teachers and the richest of them all. 'Watch this one,' Jesus whispered. 'The religious teachers like to send their coins rattling down just as loudly as they can so that anyone listening will be impressed by how much they give.' The religious teacher reached into his money bag and scooped up a handful of coins. He looked around to make sure that everyone was watching and then he poured the coins into the box with a flourish. They rattled down so quickly that Jesus and his disciples could hardly count them.

Five, ten, fifteen.

Twenty, twenty-five, thirty.

Thirty-five, forty.....

'We give up!' the disciples cried. 'But at least we can answer your question. No-one is going to give more than that man.' They turned to walk away.

'Wait just a minute,' said Jesus. 'There's one more person waiting.' It was an old woman - a widow dressed in mourning clothes. She pulled out her purse and took out two tiny coins.

'I wish I could give more,' she whispered. 'But this is all I have.' She dropped the coins in the box.

One, two.

Jesus looked at his friends. 'Does anyone want to change their answer?' he asked.

'No,' they all replied. 'The third man gave the most.'

'Are you sure?' asked Jesus. 'What about the old woman?'

The disciples laughed. 'She only put in two coins. We can count you know.'

'I know,' said Jesus. 'But those were the only two coins she had. The others put in more coins, that's true. But they still had plenty left in their pockets, their money bags and back at home. The woman, however, gave everything she had. Don't you see? It all adds up. The woman dropped in the fewest coins, but in the end she gave the most of all!'

Coins Game

(See the circles on the following page.)

INSTRUCTIONS

Take it in turns to roll or throw the coins onto the circles.

Add up the total of the circles you land on.

Highest score wins.

IDEAS TO MAKE IT HARDER

- Stand further away when you roll or throw.
- If you are right-handed, throw with your left hand or vice versa.
- Do it blindfolded.
- Face away from the game and throw the coins over your shoulder.
- Only score coins if they are completely inside the coloured circle.
- If you come up with any more, please let us know.

200

75

2

20

5

100

30

50

1

10

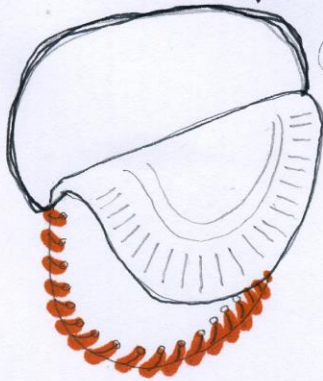
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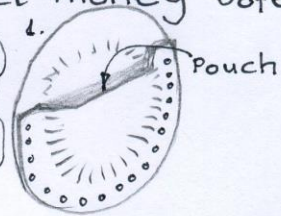
THIS Widow's Mile Purse

Please be sure to read the footnote*

Note: in the package the plates are tied together to keep them in pairs. Cut the wool to release them!

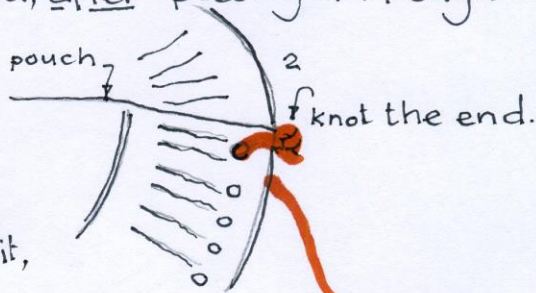


Note: To keep pocket money safe! If you wish to decorate or colour the purse, do it first, before stitching together!



1. Place the cut off plate face to face with the whole plate, (to form a pouch).

2. using the wool, tie one end, after passing it through the first hole in both plates -



3. sticky tape applied to the other (loose) end to enclose it, to stop it fraying.



4. Lace the wool through the holes and well tie, after using the final hole.

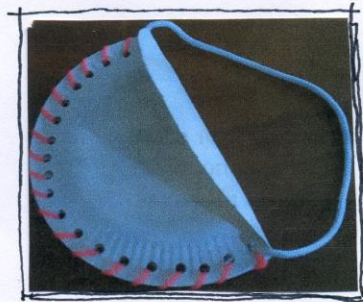
5. fit the handle. and fold the flap down. (fit the handle cord by threading through the last hole on each side and knotting at the rear.)



NOTE

BEFORE YOU START!

Make sure the holes in both plates line up. (if they do not, reverse just one of the plates)

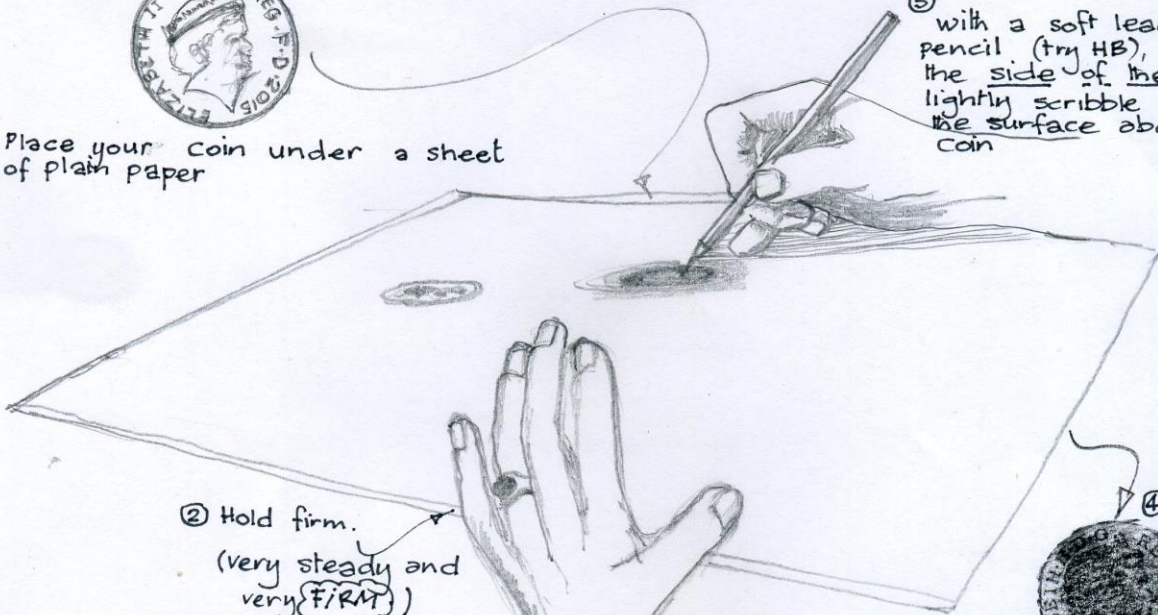


THIS TRY COIN RUBBING ART.



① Place your coin under a sheet of plain paper

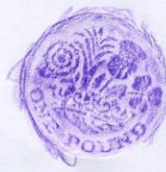
③ with a soft lead pencil (try HB), using the side of the point lightly scribble over the surface above the coin



② Hold firm. (very steady and very FIRM)



Sorry, but when you have rubbed them, you cannot spend them!



Why NOT try coloured pencil as well!

ALSO-
-Why NOT try silver foil rubbing also?
Just use a piece of kitchen foil, put coin in under, rub with your finger and hey presto!



Have fun ----- and remember to return the coins!

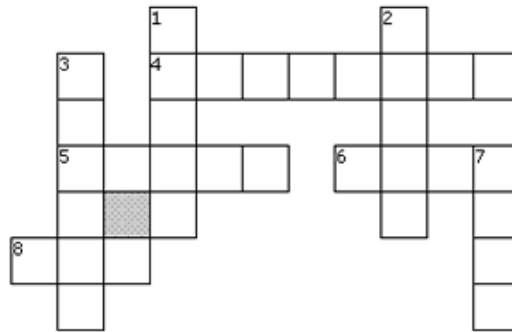
Color by Number for Jesus Taught About Giving

Color each section by the colors shown in the list at the bottom of the page. If you don't have all of the colors listed or find an area that's not numbered, make your best color choice.



1. Gold 2. Blue 3. Yellow 4. Brown 5. Light Gray 6. Dark Gray 7. Light Purple 8. Skin
9. Green 10. Dark Purple 11. Light Purple

CROSSWORD



ACROSS

4. A contribution or gift made at a religious service
5. The official currency issued by a government
6. Having little or no wealth
8. The entire amount; everything

DOWN

1. A small piece of flat, circular metal, used for money
2. A woman whose husband has died and who has not remarried
3. A building used for worship
7. Having great material wealth

offering	rich	poor	all
temple	money	widow	coins

From Revd. Martin

I wasn't very good at sport when I was at school. There was always someone who was faster or better or who had more skills than I had. But I tried my best, and put all my effort into it. We often compare ourselves to other people, but that is not what Jesus does. He doesn't compare our skills with everyone else, but values the effort we put into whatever we do, and especially, what we give to him. It is less about how much we give, and more about how much we have put into it.

Loving God, we thank you that you value each of us as individuals. We offer to you whatever we can, with a thankful heart. We pray that you will show us what we can do for you. Amen

**God bless
Martin**



